BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING FOR	)	ORDER APPROVING
APPROVAL OF STATEMENT OF GENERALLY	)	AGREEMENT
AVAILABLE TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR	)	
INTERCONNECTION, UNBUNDLED NETWORK	)	TC02-002
ELEMENTS, ANCILLARY SERVICES AND	)	
RESALE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS	)	
SERVICES BETWEEN QWEST	)	
CORPORATION AND VARTEC TELECOM, INC.	)	
	)	

On January 7, 2002, Qwest Corporation (Qwest) filed for approval by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) an interconnection agreement between VarTec Telecom, Inc. (VarTec) and Qwest.

On January 10, 2002, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of this filing to interested individuals and entities. The notice stated that any person wishing to comment on the parties' request for approval had until January 28, 2002, to do so. No comments were filed.

At its duly noticed February 5, 2002, meeting, the Commission considered whether to approve the agreement between Qwest and VarTec. Commission Staff recommended its approval.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31, and the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. In accordance with 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2), the Commission found that the agreement does not discriminate against a telecommunications carrier that is not a party to the agreement and the agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. The Commission unanimously voted to approve the agreement. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Commission approves the agreement.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 8th day of February, 2002.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.

By:_____

Date:_____

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

_____
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

_____
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

_____
ROBERT K. SAHR, Commissioner